

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2080 - SB 2466**

February 10, 2018

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates a voluntary certification process for persons who obtain at least 50 hours of training and pass an exam in order to use the title “certified animal massage therapist.” Requires any person practicing animal massage therapy to file a \$25,000 surety bond with the Department of Health (DOH).

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$10,000/Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**

**Other Fiscal Impact – Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners had an annual surplus of \$194,877 in FY15-16, an annual surplus of \$91,797 in FY16-17, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$659,671 on June 30, 2017.**

**Assumptions:**

- The proposed legislation does not provide rulemaking authority for the DOH to impose any fees for certifying animal massage therapists. Therefore, it is assumed that the certification will be issued at no cost.
- It is estimated the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners will experience a recurring increase in state expenditures estimated to be \$10,000 for issuing an estimated 50 certifications.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners had an annual surplus of \$194,877 in FY15-16, an annual surplus of \$91,797 in FY16-17, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$659,671 on June 30, 2017.

**IMPACT TO COMMERCE:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

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Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation does not prohibit any person from rendering or offering to render animal massage therapy services. Animal massage therapy does not include the diagnosis, treatment, correction, alleviation, or prevention of any animal disease, illness, pain, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental condition, or otherwise constitute the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Allowing an individual to voluntarily certify to use the title of “certified animal massage therapist” will not have a significant impact on commerce or jobs in Tennessee.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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